



**For Immediate Release
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**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION
(DCR) ANNOUNCES FINAL PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR
PHASE II OF NEPONSET RIVER ENHANCEMENT**

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) today announced a third public meeting on the draft Master Plan for Phase II of renovations to a major section of the Neponset River. The area encompasses 125 acres from Central Avenue in East Milton to Paul's Bridge in Hyde Park with over 11 miles of river banks.

The third and final public meeting for the Phase II planning effort will take place on **Wednesday, June 14, 2006 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Hyde Park Community Center.** The Center is located at 1179 River Street, between the Hyde Park Cooperative Bank and Hyde Park Savings Bank, and is within walking distance of the Fairmont Commuter Rail station.

The meeting will be an open house and stations will be set up illustrating the key components of the plan alternatives. Project team members will be available to talk to attendees. A brief presentation at 7:30 p.m. will be followed by a question and answer period.

In 1994, the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC), now the DCR, completed the Neponset River Reservation Master Plan Phase I for the Lower Estuary of the Neponset River Reservation, which included Pope John Paul II Park, Squantum Point Park, the Neponset salt marsh restoration project, etc. The protection and enhancement of the ecological systems along and in the Neponset River will be a guiding principle in developing Phase II of the Master Plan. Both passive and active recreation opportunities will be promoted and enhanced, while protecting and enhancing the river as a living system. The Master Plan Phase II will reflect public comments and input received throughout the planning process.

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